Attorney/Docket No. 30749.11
Customer No. 000027683

07-11-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: §
    Sheri L. Zimmel, et al.   §   Group Art Unit: 2152
                                       §
Serial No. 09/905,748   §
                                       §   Examiner: Unknown
Filed: July 14, 2001   §
                                       §
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR   §
OPTIMIZING TELECOMMUNICATION   §
NETWORK DESIGN USING WEIGHTED   §
SPAN CLASSIFICATION FOR LOW   §
DEGREE OF SEPARATION DEMANDS   §

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

    In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence. Copies of the listed information are attached.

    This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

    It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

    The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew S. Ehmke
Registration No. 50,271

Date: 6/4/03

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D-1131791.1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	4,466,060	08/14/1984	AT&T Bell Telephone Laboratories, Incorporated
	AB	4,669,113	05/26/1987	AT&T Company; AT&T Bell Laboratories; AT&T Communications
	AC	4,706,080	11/10/1987	Bell Communications Research, Inc.
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	AF	4,891,802	01/02/1990	U.S. Philips Corporation
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	AH	5,018,133	05/21/1991	Hitachi, Ltd.
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	AT	6,104,701	08/15/2000	International Business Machines Corporation
	AU	6,104,724	08/15/2000	Transwitch Corp.

OTHER PRIOR ART

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	AV	COSARES, SANIEE, and WASEM; *Network Planning with SONET Toolkit*; Bellcore Exchange September/October 1992, Pages 8 – 13.
	AW	ONDRIA J. WASEM; *An Algorithm for Designing Rings in Communication Networks*
	AX	SUJATA BANERJEE and VICTOR O. K. LI; *Order-P: An Algorithm to Order Network Partitionings*
	AY	TSONG-HO WU and RICHARD C. LAU; *A Class of Self-Healing Ring Architectures for SONET Network Applications*; IEEE Transactions on Communications; Vol. 40, No. 11, November 1999.
	AZ	J.B. SLEVINSKY, W.D. GROVER, and M.H. MACGREGOR; An Algorithm for Survivable Network Design Employing Multiple Self-Healing Rings

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document (Country Code – Number – Kind)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation Y/N

OTHER PRIOR ART

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	BA	Depth First Search; http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/depthfirst.html; September 22, 2000
	BB	Breadth First Search; http://hissa.nist.gov/dads/HTML/breadthfirst.html; September 22, 2000
	BC	JOHN F. DILLENBURG and PETER C. NELSON; *Improving the Efficiency of Depth-First Search by Cycle Elimination*; http://www.ai.uic.edu/~dillenbu/papers/cycle2.html; September 22, 2000
	BD	http://www.markwatson.com/opencontent/aisearch/DepthFirstSearch.java; September 22, 2000
	BE	*Depth first vs. Breadth first search*; http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/~alison/ai3notes/paragraph2_6_2_1_0_1.html; September 22, 2000

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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